

PROCLAMATION NOXIOUS WEED AWARENESS MONTH June 2004

WHEREAS, noxious weeds are a serious problem in North Dakota and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota, leafy spurge infests nearly 1,000,000 acres and costs farmers and ranchers \$27 million in direct impacts every year, with a total economic impact to our state estimated at \$86 million; and

WHEREAS, Canada thistle has also been a troublesome weed in North Dakota, and other weeds have the potential to become the "new leafy spurge," such as the spotted knapweed, which already infests over half of North Dakota's counties; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Weed Control Association is working with county and city weed control authorities to raise awareness and educate North Dakotans on ways to fight and prevent noxious weeds; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim June 2004, **NOXIOUS WEED AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State